

P 609423 C/S

[10537/105]

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **WEAR-RESISTANT LAYER**, the specification of which was filed as International Application No. PCT/DE99/04017, on December 17, 1999, an English translation of which is enclosed herewith.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

| (Number)     | (Country)               | (Day/month/year<br>filed) | Priority Claimed<br>Under 35 USC 119 |              |
|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 198 59 477.1 | Fed. Rep. of<br>Germany | 22 December 1998          | Yes <u>X</u>                         | No <u>  </u> |

And I hereby appoint Richard L. Mayer (Registration No. 22,490) my attorney with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

106001 2659560

Please address all communications regarding this application to:

KENYON & KENYON



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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